वित्तीय वर्ष 1987-88 में स्वच्छता, सफाई एवं अभियांत्रिकी कार्यों पर कुल कितना खर्च किया गया;

(ख) निगम के राजस्व खाते से और योजना राशि में से उपरोक्त कार्यों पर कितना-कितना खर्च किया गया; और

(ग) उपरोक्त कार्यों को सम्पन्न कराने के लिये अलग-अलग रूप से कितने अधिकारी और कितने कर्मचारी कार्यरत हैं ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष मोहन देव) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Import of edible oils on F.O.B. basis

2452. SHRI L. NARSINGH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to import some essential edible oils on f.o.b. basis, if so, when;

(b) whether it is a fact that Rules in this regard are flouted since 1978 and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether in the past Government or any Government agency had incurred any losses on account of insurance, freight etc. on C & F basis; if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether it was decided to start f.o.b. purchases from December, 1987 as was reported in the Economic Times of 17th October, 1987 and the reasons for not doing so till date;

(e) by when the Government intends to start f.o.b. purchases for which six ships are there: and

(f) the estimated amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Consequent upon the canalisation of import of edible oils through STC in December, 1978, STC arranged imports on f.o.b. basis and subsequently on C&F basis. Later on, STC had to resort to imports of edible oils on CIF basis due to the non-availability of adequate cargo space by Indian ships and the necessity of arranging timely imports of essential items of human consumption as per the programme given by the Government.

(c) STC incurred heavy shortages in receipt of oils imported on f.o.b./ C&F basis and had consequently to revise the purchase terms on CIF basis.

(d) Government had decided to resume imports of certain edible oils from Malaysia on f.o.b. basis on trial basis. The f.o.b. terms of purchases are being finalised by STC in consultation with the suppliers and Transchart.

(e) STC has been using available Indian vessels for carriage of oils from Malaysia/Indonesia even against c.i.f. terms of purchases and for transporting oil from Western Coast of India to the Eastern Coast.

(f) Cost effectiveness and savings of foreign exchange are dependent on timely availability of Indian ships.

Schemes having link between imports and exports

2453 SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are undertaking or propose to undertake any schemes which have a link between imports and exports;

(b) if so, what are the details of these schemes;

(c) which are the items intended to be imported under the above schemes

and the items which are helpful for the manufacture of export-oriented products; and

(d) the export boosts which are expected from the above export linked import transactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is already allowing export linked import to promote exports. Under the Import and Export Policy, the imported inputs are allowed by way of import replenishment as the percentage of FOB value of exports and duty free import under Duty Exemption and Import and Export Pass Book Schemes. Besides, import of rough diamonds, gold and silver are also permitted for export of value added products.

(c) and (d) The details of the above said schemes are given in import and Export Policy, 1988-91 (Volume-1).

Trade deficit and depreciation in the value of rupee

2454. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the trade deficit in the first quarter of 1988-89 as compared to the same period of 1987-88; and

(b) whether there is also a steady depreciation of value of rupee compared with other currencies and if so, how do Government propose to counter act the above two maladies in our economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The provisional trade data indicates the trade deficit of Rs. 2074 crores in the first quarter of 1988-89 as against Rs. 1396 crores in the corresponding period of last year.

(b) The exchange rate of the rupee is fixed with reference to the exchange rate movement of a suitably weighted basket of currencies. In a regime of floating exchange rates, upward or downward movements of the value of rupee, which depends upon the fluctuations in the value of these currencies, is a normal phenomenon.

Special Action Plan drawn by the Government for balance of payments turn-around aims inter-alia at measures to generate additional exports and contain imports and thereby reduce the trade deficit in the current year.

Fraud in RBI at Bhubaneswar

2455. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of rupees have been defrauded in the Reserve Bank of India at its Bhubaneswar Branch Orissa;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter; and

(c) what is the total amount involved in alleged fraud?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that in February, 1988, their Bhubaneswar Office had come across mutilated notes of Rs. 100/- denomination passed for payment at the office. The mutilations were of suspicious nature. In July, 1988 also the above office had come across several notes of Rs. 100/- denomination with punch marks already on